

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00716 170107Z

14-11
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 SAJ-01 /079 W
----- 046528

R 160915Z APR 75
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3586
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 716

E.O. 11652/N/A
TAGS: CH, NKR
SUBJECT: PEKING PREPARES BIG WELCOME FOR KIM II-SUNG

THE PRC APPEARS TO BE PREPARING AN UNUSUALLY LARGE WELCOME FOR KIM II-SUNG WHEN HE COMES ON A STATE VISIT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. PEOPLE'S DAILY APRIL 16 ANNOUNCES THE VISIT WITH A SET-OFF HEADLINE CLEARLY AIMED TO GIVE IT UNUSUAL PROMINENCE. IN THE AFTERNOON THOUSANDS OF BRIGHTLY DRESSED PEKING SCHOOL CHILDREN WERE GATHERED IN

TIEN AN MEN SQUARE TO REHEARSE FOR KIM'S ARRIVAL. PREPARATIONS SUGGEST A MASSIVE RECEPTION ON A SCALE WHICH THE CHINESE HAVE NOT ACCORDED TO A VISITING HEAD OF STATE IN MANY YEARS. RESIDENT JOURNALISTS HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT KIM AND HIS ENTOURAGE WILL ARRIVE FRIDAY AT 4:00 PM PEKING TIME AND A WELCOME BANQUET WILL BE HELD THAT NIGHT.

2. COMMENT: VISIT BY KIM II-SUNG COMES AS A SURPRISE AND RAISES A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS. BOTH MAO AND CHOU WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE TO APPEAR FOR A LEADER OF THIS STATURE, AND A MAJOR TIEN AN MEN
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REVIEW SHOULD HAVE THE CHAIRMAN ON THE PODIUM, SOMETHING WHICH IS MOST UNLIKELY. COMING AT A TIME WHEN THE SITUATION IN INDOCHINA IS

EVOLVING MORE RAPIDLY THAN ANYONE EXPECTED, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY
THAT BOTH SIDES FELT IT NECESSARY FOR CONSULTATIONS AT THE HIGHEST
LEVELS. SOME OF THE MISSIONS HAVING RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA
ARE ATTEMPTING TO SEE THE AMBASSADOR HERE REGARDING THE VISIT
AND WE WILL BE CHECKING WITH THEM ON ANYTHING THEY PICK UP.
BUSH

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Message Attributes

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